

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115406

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 115406 ACTION ALL NEAR EASTERN AND
SOUTH ASIAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS SECRETARY KHARTOUM ADDIS ABABA
BAGHDAD INFO MOGADISCIO DOD JCS XMT COLOMBO DACCA ISLAMABAD
KATHMANDU KABUL NEW DELHI SINAI MAY 20, 1977

QTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115406 TOSEC 040377

GENEVA S/S FOR GELB - ZFF4 SECRETARY ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT: US ARMS SALES POLICY

STATE 115244

REF: STATE 115244

1. FOLLOWING ARE SUPPLEMENTARY TALKING POINTS TO BE DRAWN
UPON AS APPROPRIATE IN EXPLAINING PRESIDENTIAL DECISION ON US
ARMS SALES POLICY. BASIC GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS BEING
SENT SEPTEL.

2. THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY DECISIONS REPRESENT HIS STRONG
DESIRE TO BRING ABOUT RESTRAINT IN THE WORLD'S ARM TRADE:
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THEY ARE NOT DIRECTED AT ANY SINGLE COUNTRY OR GROUP OF
COUNTRIES. THE US GREATLY VALUES ITS CLOSE TIES WITH
(COUNTRY WHERE APPROPRIATE). WE EXPECT TO WORK CLOSELY AND
COOPERATIVELY WITH (COUNTRY HERE APPROPRIATE) TO REALIZE
OUR RESPECTIVE OBJECTIVES.

3. THE US IS DETERMINED TO WORK FOR EARLY PROGRESS TOWARDS
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE REFERENCES SPECIFICALLY TO

ISRAEL IN OUR NEW POLICY REPRESENT CONTINUITY IN OUR HISTORIC COMMITMENT TO THAT COUNTRY. OUR NEW POLICY WILL ALSO BE CONDUCTED IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR INTEREST AND FRIENDSHIP WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO WORK FOR ARMS RESTRAINT THROUGHOUT THE MIDDLE EAST AS WELL AS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. WHEN WE ASK RESTRAINT OF ANY OF OUR FRIENDS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WE WILL BE LOOKING AT THE PATTERN OF RESTRAINT EXERCISED BY ITS REGIONAL NEIGHBORS. THE PRESIDENT'S ARMS POLICY IS NOT DESIGNED TO DISADVANTAGE ANY OF OUR FRIENDS. (FYI: YOU SHOULD NOT BE MORE SPECIFIC IN RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE SUDAN, SOMALIA, ETHIOPIA, ETC. AT THIS TIME. END FYI.)

4. THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO ASSESS THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PROPOSED ARMS TRANSFERS. NEITHER THE US NOR (COUNTRY) WISHES TO DIVERT SCARCE RESOURCES UNNECESSARILY TO DEFENSE PROJECTS. IN THIS AND IN OTHER ASPECTS OF AN ARMS POLICY WE WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH (COUNTRY).

5. IF ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS, YOU MAY RESPOND ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

-- ALTHOUGH IT IS THE PRESIDENT'S INTENTION TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS SERVING ABROAD FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME IN RELATION TO ARMS TRANSFERS, THIS WILL NOT AFFECT AMERICANS ASSOCIATED WITH WEAPONS SYSTEMS ALREADY
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DELIVERED OR IN THE PIPELINE.

-- MILITARY TRAINING GENERALLY WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM THE RESTRICTIONS IN OUR ARMS POLICY. THIS IS PARTICULARLY THE CASE WITH MILITARY TRAINING UNRELATED TO LEARNING THE OPERATION OR MAINTENANCE OF SPECIFIC TYPES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

6. FOR JIDDA: WE EXPECT THERE WILL BE A REVIEW OF OUR ARMS POLICY WITH PRINCE FAHD DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

7. FOR RABAT, TUNIS, BEIRUT: WE WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL OF SALES TO (MOROCCO, TUNISIA, LEBANON) IN FY '77 WHEN CONSIDERING FUTURE ARMS SALES. WHILE WE INTEND TO LOWER THE OVERALL DOLLAR VALUE OF OUR WORLDWIDE ARMS SALES, WE WILL ALSO KEEP IN MIND THE DEFENSIVE NEEDS OF OUR FRIENDS. FOR BEIRUT: AMBASSADOR PARKER WILL BE PREPARED TO BRIEF GOL UPON HIS RETURN TO

BEIRUT ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF OUR NEW ARMS POLICY FOR
LEBANON.

8. FOR AMMAN: IN MAKING PRESENTATION, AMBASSADOR MAY
WISH TO NOTE THAT THE PRESIDENT MADE CLEAR TO KING
HUSSEIN DURING THE LATTER'S VISIT HERE THAT HE WAS
REVIEWING OUR ARMS POLICY IN THE NAME OF GLOBAL RESTRAINT.
WE DESIRE AND EXPECT OUR CLOSE RELATIONS WITH JORDAN TO
CONTINUE.

9. FOR TEHERAN: IF ASKED ABOUT THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS,
YOU MAY RESPOND ALONG THESE LINES, NOTING THAT THE
SECRETARY REVIEWED OUR POLICY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR IRAN
WITH THE SHAH LAST WEEK.

-- REGARDING THE F-18L, THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY
ESTABLISHES A STRONG PRESUMPTION AGAINST THIS TYPE OF
SALE.
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-- THE PRESIDENT'S DECISIONS DO NOT APPLY TO THOSE
F-16'S ON WHICH APPROVAL HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN. HOWEVER,
DECISIONS ON FUTURE F-16 SALES WOULD HAVE TO TAKE INTO
ACCOUNT GUIDELINES OF THE NEW POLICY, INCLUDING THE
PRESIDENT'S INTENT TO REDUCE THE DOLLAR LEVEL OF ARMS
EXPORTS COMMENCING IN FY '78 AND THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS
ABROAD.

-- (ONLY IF ASKED): UNDER THE NEW POLICY CENTO IS NOT
CONSIDERED AN ALLIANCE IN THE SAME SENSE AS NATO AND
ANZUS. THE UNITED STATES IS A FULL MEMBER OF NATO AND
ANZUS, BUT IS NOT OF CENTO. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES
HAS HAD CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER-NATIONS OF CENTO
AND THEIR DEFENSE NEEDS AND THE STATE OF OUR RELATIONS
WITH THEM WILL BE FACTORS AFFECTING OUR ARMS TRANSFER
POLICY. CHRISTOPHER UNQTE VANCE

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